

## BINGHAM ON STANLEY, ACCUSES JEROME

Former District Attorney Didn't Want to Prosecute for Graft, He Declares.

### EX-POLICEMAN BLAMED

Witnesses in Libel Case Say J. A. Wasserman Accepted Protection Money.

The controversy between ex-Commissioner of Police Theodore A. Bingham and former District Attorney Joseph A. Wasserman regarding the character of Joseph A. Wasserman, accused of collecting graft from disorderly houses, was revived yesterday in the District Court when the ex-Commissioner took the witness stand. He testified in a \$100,000 libel suit brought by Wasserman against the Bronx Home News Publishing Company, which had printed a statement that Wasserman had been dismissed from the police force because of graft.

The ex-Commissioner testified to the reputation of Wasserman. Then Mr. L. Heidenheimer, attorney for Wasserman, took him in hand.

"You asked Jerome to help you in uncovering vice, did you not?" was the first question fired at the witness. "I don't recall ever having asked Jerome for any help," was the answer. The witness then admitted that he had assigned Wasserman to a special squad to look after the District Attorney. Asked if he had known of Wasserman's reputation before the investigation by Jerome he replied:

"What investigation do you mean? Jerome always making investigations. Heidenheimer brought out that Gen. Bingham had assigned another squad to get evidence against Jerome's squad. "And did you lay this evidence before the grand jury?" he was asked.

"I did, after much trouble." "Do you mean to say that Jerome didn't want to prosecute these men against whom you had evidence of graft?"

"I do," was Bingham's reply. The former Commissioner also testified that he had never heard any one say anything good about Wasserman.

Reuben Hertz, one of the chief witnesses against Wasserman, became hysterical while testifying. After her outburst of tears Ernest Neelman, attorney for defense, moved that a juror be withdrawn and a mistrial be entered. Judge Brady said he was willing if counsel for the prosecution agreed, but it did not.

Reuben, whose husband, Jacob, had told of paying "hundreds of dollars" to Wasserman for protection, corroborated his testimony in detail. She had first met Wasserman sixteen years ago, she said. Through her husband she paid him between \$25 and \$50 a week for eighteen months and also gave him a French clock, some oil paintings and two pearl hand-reveilers.

"He said that if I was good to him he would be good to me," she testified. "I felt like a mother toward him for a while. Then one day he asked me to testify that Wasserman had accepted hush money from me and I told him that I would not."

"You can't use me to ruin any honorable and respectable member of the police force," I told him. Just because he said a few like you on the force that is no reason why I would help to send honest men to prison."

At this point she began to cry. When Judge Brady said to the jury: "It is unfortunate that I have to listen to her crying when there is nothing to cry about."

"Your honor," cried Mr. Neelman, jumping to his feet, "consider that influencing the jury. I move that this be declared a mistrial."

Judge Brady said it was not. Nathaniel Schreiber, formerly employed as a bartender for Hertz, said he acted as lookout for Wasserman when the latter was in the saloon, receiving champagne and having a good time.

Gen. Bingham will continue his testimony this morning.

### NEW PLAYS IN FILM THEATRES.

Mrs. Fiske Shown in "Tess" at the Fifth Avenue.

Mrs. Fiske's wonderful embodiment of "Tess of the D'Urbervilles" was seen yesterday afternoon at the Fifth Avenue Theatre. The audience delighted in the reproduction of this notable American success. It is different from many others in that it does something more than amuse and thrill the spectators. It presents to the stage one of the most famous achievements of one of its most famous actresses. "Mr. Barnes of New York" will be at this theatre for the latter half of the season.

De Wolf Hopper has been added to the vaudeville division of Webb's Electric Pictures. All the quaintness of the comedian and his characteristic humor is there. He is the minstrel show, however, which will do more than all the books ever written to preserve this form of amusement to future generations. They are well known to the public.

The Strand has a new thriller yesterday in "The House of Temperley," which is the dramatic version of Conan Doyle's "The Hound of the Baskin's." Charles Hays, who acted here in "The Philanderer," recently; William Logan and others in the original cast of the play at the Electric Theatre in London, where the drama had a long run and also in the film version of the play. In addition to its interesting plot the Strand always has its unusual musical features to delight the public.

The Harris Theatre will show next Saturday night the unusual pictures illustrating the dramatic version of Hall Caine's "The Christian." This play was made at the Manhattan Opera House earlier in the season and proved most effective. The old play in which Viola Allen won her fame as a star is most elaborately presented.

### ROADS RAISE RATES ON ACTORS.

Special Trains on Eastern Lines to Cost More in Future.

PHILADELPHIA, May 11.—Changes in rates and regulations for special trains for transporting theatrical troupes and similar organizations and for passengers traveling in large groups or parties will be made by the Eastern Railroad June 1. Tariffs covering the changes have been filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission.

The effect of the changes will be to increase the expense of travel of this kind and also curtail privileges hitherto enjoyed. Railroad officials here say they are necessary because the former rates were unremunerative. The new tariffs include the Pennsylvania, Baltimore and Ohio, Reading and New York Central.

### AUTO STRIKES BOY AT PLAY.

Childrun Arrested After Accident in Jersey City.

When Richard, a five-year-old of 76 Newark avenue, Jersey City, was struck and killed by an automobile near the intersection of the two streets yesterday afternoon, he was taken to Christ Hospital unconscious.

The auto was owned by John P. O'Hara of 400 Washington street, Hoboken, and was driven by Harry Brown, the eleven-year-old of 17 Willow terrace, Hoboken. Brown was arrested.

## CHARLES W. MORSE FORMS \$3,500,000 CANAL BOAT LINE

The SUN was authorized yesterday to announce the plans for the incorporation at Albany to-morrow of the New York and Buffalo Steamship Company, which has been organized with a capital of \$3,500,000 to operate the first line of freight vessels on the new \$101,000,000 State barge canal.

The idea of the barge canal line originated with Charles W. Morse and the details have been worked out by his son, Harry P. Morse, who was graduated from Yale in 1910, and Capt. M. L. Gilbert, now president of the Southern Steamship Company, the Morse line from Wilmington, N. C., to Baltimore.

The new line will have a fleet of thirty vessels, all driven by electricity and operated from the pilot house instead of from the engine room. They will be the first electrically driven vessels to be run here, with the exception of the United States collier Jupiter.

The new barge canal company will have a bond issue of \$2,000,000 and \$1,500,000 of stock. Only about \$250,000 of the entire issue of stock and bonds will be offered to the public, the rest having been disposed of already by the Morse Securities Company.

Which was organized by Charles W. Morse about two years ago when he started out to recoup his wealth and reinstate himself as a power in the steamship world. The control of the new company will remain with Mr. Morse.

Daily Boats to Buffalo. Mr. Morse said yesterday that he preferred not to discuss the new company because his time is taken up with the affairs of the Hudson Navigation Company, of which he is the president. He referred to the SUN reporter to Capt. Gilbert, who will be the direct manager of the exchange place.

Capt. Gilbert said that the company will run a daily line of package freight ships between New York and Buffalo, using thirty vessels when the canal is opened.

Ten of the ships will be built on the Atlantic coast, probably by a New York concern, and will be delivered this fall. They will be used on the Hudson River and Long Island Sound until next spring, when they will inaugurate traffic on the canal.

## GOV. HATFIELD PUNCHES HIS WIFE'S BROTHER

Said to Have Broken Two of Latter's Ribs-Relative Resigns Office.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., May 11.—After an alleged personal encounter with Gov. Henry D. Hatfield, his brother-in-law, Charles H. Bronson, a member of the West Virginia Public Service Commission, tendered his resignation to-day to take effect at once.

The encounter is alleged to have occurred Friday night. Gov. Hatfield is said to have reprimanded Commissioner Bronson for alleged dissipation during the course of hearings before the commission. The altercation occurred in the private office of the Executive.

It is reported that in striking Bronson, the Governor inflicted serious injury, breaking two of his ribs. It was necessary to take Bronson to his home in a taxicab, according to well established reports.

Commissioner Bronson, who is a brother of Mrs. Hatfield, has announced his intention to institute civil action against the Governor.

W. S. Hallahan, private secretary to the Governor, declared to-night that so far as he knew the resignation of Bronson had not been accepted. He intimated, however, that Gov. Hatfield had received the resignation in person and had declined to make it public.

Homer Gray, secretary of the Board of Public Works, also resigned to-day. He said he resigned in criticism of his work by the Governor. The criticism was expressed during a session of the board while Mr. Gray was taking notes on the other side of the representative of a railroad company.

The Governor, it is said, interrupted the speaker and asked Mr. Gray if he was taking the statement of the railroad representative. The speaker would be ready for the board the following morning. The secretary replied that he was only taking notes and would be able to write out the statement only after the board had met.

Gov. Hatfield did not meet the Governor and after a brief dispute Mr. Gray left the room, declaring that he had resigned.

### NANCE GWYN IN UPLIFT PLAY.

Patterson's Sociological Effort Put On at Hammerstein's.

Nance Gwyn appeared before the scientific audience at Hammerstein's Victoria yesterday afternoon to explain by means of a one act sociological effort of Joseph Medill Patterson's "Why Girls Go Wrong." Acted by the Stage Society at the Lyceum Theatre last winter there was no such punch in the title. The play was somewhat confusingly described as "By-products." Laurette Taylor then acted its principal character, Mrs. Gwyn, who has been playing the piece in the vaudeville theatres.

The scene represents the home of a poor family somewhere in the East. The mother, who has arisen in the early evening hours to journey over to Manhattan and scrub the floors of an office building. She starts off in spite of the rheumatism. There is a sister very ill and need of money to get her away from New York. Sister, we salute thee! We can, even if you cannot, recall making your acquaintance in "Night." The play is the most interesting play in the Strand always has its unusual musical features to delight the public.

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## AL H. WOODS FORMS BIG LONDON COMPANY

Prepares for Invasion of English Capital With Popular American Plays.

### BRITONS LIKE OUR HUMOR

Weber and Fields to Appear for First Time in a Play Without Music.

Al H. Woods, the theatrical producer, who returned from Europe on Saturday, made public yesterday his plans for next season. Mr. Woods was abroad about a month. In discussing the results of his brief stay he said:

"I have formed an English company, capitalized at \$50,000, which will be called 'Alwoods, Ltd.' While I had this scheme in mind some time ago, I was impelled to put it through at once because of my firm belief that the time is ripe for American productions in London. The formation of this company will necessitate my going to London in order to produce plays there in the months of April, May, June and July."

"The distance from New York to London by the canal is 494 miles, which will be covered by our boats in 108 hours. This includes 35 hours for stops and twelve hours for the direct crossing. The rate of travel will be about 20 per cent. lower than the rail rates."

"The cost of the boats will be about \$5,000 each. They will be classed as boats of war and will be able to express war and stop only at Albany, Troy, Schenectady, Utica, Syracuse, Rochester and Buffalo. These boats will make a trip in three days. They will be stopping at all the thirty cities along the way, will make the distance in 119 hours."

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## TWO STARS PRESENT POPULAR OLD PLAY

John Drew and Ethel Barrymore Appear in "A Scrap of Paper."

### PRODUCTION IS EFFECTIVE

Mr. Drew's Acting Strikes More Responsive Chord Than the Actress's.

"A Scrap of Paper"—At the Empire Theatre. Prosper Courmont..... John Drew Baron de la Gladiere..... Ethel Barrymore Anatole..... Fuller Maitland Suzanne de Ruvellie..... Ethel Barrymore Louise de la Gladiere..... Mary Boland Mathilde..... Charlotte Lee Mrs. Zerkow..... Jeffries Lewis Mme. Dupont..... Mrs. Thomas Whiffen

Charles Frohman had the happy idea of lending a flip to the closing nights of the theatre season by bringing forward John Drew and Ethel Barrymore in "A Scrap of Paper."

It is recounted by the historians of the theatre—moving pictures are going to quiet them, too, after a while—that Miss Barrymore and her distinguished uncle had not acted together since the days of "The Baited Sheep" and "Rosemary." Certainly Victorien Sardou's famous old comedy has not been acted in its original form in seasons.

They are fortunate who can remember the famous representations of the anglicized "Les Pattes des Mouches" given by Mr. and Mrs. Kendall at the Fifth Avenue Theatre, when their actors were the best from London. It takes no such boasted ancestry of theatre knowledge to remember these sparkling productions of a play, as it does to recall the performance of Rose Coghlan, who was in the audience last night, and Lester Wallace, which were some of the early glory of the play's history in this country.

The drama will always represent to those who regard it as something more than a means of watching distinguished actors as the first example of the skill which carried Sardou to the top of the profession he had selected. It was in this comedy that he showed his genius for the least to a recognition of the rules of the medium in which he hoped to win fame.

Sardou Surpasses Scribner. Nothing could be more eloquent in its message for the American stage than the history of "Les Pattes des Mouches." Scribner, who dominated the French theatre when Sardou had begun to write without knowing that there was no model as certain to bring him fame as the story of this great personage, was not cordially received by Scribner, who snubbed him. But Sardou triumphed gloriously by learning all that Scribner knew and using it more, with the fresher knowledge of a young man.

Perhaps the success of this play and the long series that followed might persuade the men who set out to follow the stage in this country to follow the same course that led Sardou to success. But it is probable that they will continue to prefer to be smart and quick and to celebrate the enduring triumphs that have been the lot of young American playwrights during the recent seasons.

Both Miss Barrymore and Mr. Drew were in the audience last night, and it is probable that there were many about them who had played the same parts in their time. Miss Lewis, for instance, has more than once acted with distinction in the "Scrap of Paper" and it is probable that there were many about them who had played the same parts in their time. Miss Lewis, for instance, has more than once acted with distinction in the "Scrap of Paper" and it is probable that there were many about them who had played the same parts in their time.

It was on the two stars that the interest of the audience centred last night. Probably there were many there with no previous conception of the way in which the two leading characters were to be acted. There were also those who wondered if the two most recent representatives of the famous parts were to suggest the delights of their predecessors. These disagreeable persons were fair game to admit that they were not acting any longer in a play that possessed the elements of novelty. For it must be remembered that "A Scrap of Paper" is only a decade younger than "Lohengrin."

As Powerful as Ever. Parts of the comedy are quite as antiquated in manner as one might expect. A newer manner of rendering the play might remove the most obvious anachronisms in method, but in the essential points the scenes have lost no power to amuse an audience. It is naturally enough, the less essential scenes that seem most intolerably old-fashioned.

Proof of this present power of "A Scrap of Paper" to interest the public is to be found in the fact that the last act was last night more thoroughly enjoyed by the audience than any of the two previous acts. It must be borne in mind that the leading role was not acted with the brilliancy which has for a generation been the only excuse for revivals of the play.

The charm of Mrs. Barrymore's personality has not appeared in vain to the public. It has gained many admirers for her. But to act Sardou in a way to suggest the delights of their predecessors. These disagreeable persons were fair game to admit that they were not acting any longer in a play that possessed the elements of novelty. For it must be remembered that "A Scrap of Paper" is only a decade younger than "Lohengrin."

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## CONJECTURE

An Owner really indulges in conjecture when he figures that the income on his building will justify the investment.

But there should be no room for conjecture regarding the capability of the contractor to give the desired results. Emphatically, the only contractor to select is one whose capabilities are a matter of record and not conjecture.

### THOMPSON-STARRETT COMPANY

Building Construction

### HUSTIS MAY HEAD B. & M. ROAD.

To Quit New Haven When Dissolution of Lines Is Complete.

BOSTON, May 11.—It is understood that James H. Hustis, president of the New Haven railroad, has been decided on to head the Boston and Maine, but his transfer may await a more definite outcome of the plan looking to a formal assumption of control over the Boston and Maine by the trustees under the New Haven dissolution agreement.

Mr. Hustis resigned as vice-president of the Boston and Albany last September to become head of the New Haven.

Boy Admits Wireless Theft. William Mignard, 14 years old, confessed to Judge Hoyt in the Children's Court yesterday that he had stolen a wireless receiving set, valued at \$650, from the East Side branch of the Y. M. C. A. He was remanded until Thursday for sentence.

Marjorie Maude's place in "Lady Windermere's Fan" at the Liberty Theatre has been taken by Florence Carpenter, who has not been well known in this city. Miss Carpenter's experience has been confined to the stock companies, where she received her training.

Changes in Casts. Frank Conlin has taken the place of Joseph Tracy in "The Dummy" at the Hudson Theatre. Mr. Tuohy was ill at the first performance of the play and it was evident that he was acting with difficulty. Mr. Conlin has been a successful substitute.

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